



City of Wichita

Wichita Police Department

Monthly Report

May 2006

Kansas Enacts New Gang Law

As a result of a great team effort that involved elected State Officials, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, the Kansas Attorney General's Office, the Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, the Kansas Sheriff's Association and the Wichita Police Department, the State of Kansas has enacted the "Criminal Street Gang Prevention Act of 2006."

The "Criminal Street Gang Act of 2006" is intended to serve as a deterrent to gang crimes that are impacting the quality of life in our community and to assist with the prosecution of these heinous crimes. This legislation will benefit both law enforcement and the County District Attorney's Office as it provides a clear and consistent definition for Criminal Street Gangs, Criminal Street Gang members, Criminal

Street Gang activity, Criminal Street Gang associates, and a gang-related incident.

The legislation also makes it illegal to use intimidation to keep a person as a member of a criminal street gang, makes it illegal to recruit people to be a member of a criminal street gang and defines the conditions necessary to be in violation.

A critical component of this legislation is the bond component: if a gang member is arrested for committing a person felony they will be required to post a minimum of \$50,000 bond (Cash or surety, no signature or O.R. bonds). The legislation allows a judge to use limited judicial discretion provision to deviate from this if the judge makes certain findings.

A special thanks to Lt. Jeffrey Easter, Supervisor of the Gang/Felony Assault Section, for his diligence and professionalism regarding the initial drafting of the legislation context and for traveling to Topeka to testify before the Senate and House of Representative Judiciary Committees to explain why the legislation was important to Kansas.

Chief Norman D. Williams

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Special points of interest:

Property & Evidence held an online auction which brought in \$7,715.57 in May. So far they have received a total of \$25,056.93 from the online auction since it was started in December of 2005.



Members from several criminal justice fields gather around Governor Kathleen Sebelius including Chief Norman Williams and Lt. Jeffrey Easter (far right).

Did You Know.....

During the month of May, WPD members received 58 CPR's that were generated internally and 55 that were generated externally.

The Professional Standards Bureau opened one external complaint on members of the Department during May. There were two internal complaints filed against Department employees.

In the month of May, Field Services personnel issued 5,856 moving citations and 2,256 parking citations.

Officers Wylie and Nienstedt gave a bicycle safety presentation to 25 students from Linwood Elementary on Saturday May 20th. Each student was given a new bike, bike helmet, and a lock, as well as other trinkets for their new bicycle. These students were nominated by their teachers to the Junior League Program, who sponsored this event.

On May 14th, Officer Watson responded to a larceny in-progress at 1600 E. Industrial. Officer Watson located and stopped a truck

leaving the area. Upon making contact with the occupants of the vehicle, he observed a large amount of scrap metal in the bed of the truck. Officer Watson was able to place both occupants into custody and they were booked for Theft.

On May 29th Officer Goebel observed a stranded vehicle. He learned that the family had driven from Oklahoma and were heading home to Hutchinson. The driver asked if she could sell her watch to buy gas. He had the driver follow him to Quik Trip where he purchased \$50.00 of fuel for them.

Officers Taylor and Tejeda rewarded Benton Elementary students who had maintained an A or B average by throwing a "Smartie Party" at Sedgwick County Park on May 19th. Officer Taylor coordinated to have a DJ in attendance, along with the Fire Department and other organized games.

On May 23 Officer Demby assisted teachers of the 6th grade class with a field trip to Linwood Park. He spoke to the

students about vandalism and not to destroy city property.

Janet Johnson, Assistant to the Chief of Police, transferred to the City Manager's Office as the Neighborhood Assistant to District III.

SRO's conducted classes at their schools related to the upcoming Youth Citizen's Police Academy.

On May 30th, Lt. Landwehr and the BTK Task Force completed the destruction of over 1,300 DNA swabs that they obtained during the course of their investigation.

Case Desk entered 2,203 citizen generated cases over the phone and 9,739 officer generated cases during the month of May. That's an average of 385.2 cases a day or 128.4 cases entered each shift.

An estimated 370,000-380,000 people attended the 2006 Wichita River Festival held May 12 thru May 20. During the nine-day event Wichita Police Officers made twenty-seven arrests.



Fun Day at Caldwell Elementary

On May 4th a fun day was held for students at Caldwell Elementary.

An equipment display was set up, including the Air Section, Mounted Unit, EOD, the Clan Lab Van, SWAT, Bike Unit and officers from East and West Patrol. Officers Maris and Davidson have been working with this school providing presentations to the hearing impaired students.

The fun day was held for all the students and interpreters were available for the hearing impaired students.



Rising Traffic Fatalities Lead to Increased Enforcement

Beginning Monday, June 12, Wichita Police Officers assigned to the Patrol West Bureau will increase traffic enforcement throughout the west quadrant of the city in an effort to reduce serious-injury crashes and traffic fatalities. Throughout the summer, a supervisor and four to eight officers will be assigned to traffic-enforcement and STEP Grant projects several times each week.

Between January 1 and May 31, 2006, Patrol West personnel documented 1,422 traffic crashes. A significant number, of which, result in injury and/or death. The City of Wichita has documented 17 traffic deaths so far this year, eight in the west quadrant of the City, twice as many as any other Bureau. Eight of Wichita's 25 high-accident intersections are located in Patrol West along major arterials, with 10 to 22

accidents reported at each intersection to date this year.

"We receive several traffic-related complaints each month from residents or employers on the west side," said Captain Terry Nelson, Commander of the Patrol West Bureau. "It further causes alarm when traffic safety problems in some areas are of such concern that area residents applaud offi-

cers writing speeding tickets."

The most common causes of traffic accidents are speed, inattentive driving, following too close, running red lights, fail to yield right of way, unsafe lane changes and improper turns. Officers will execute speed-enforcement projects along major arterials as well as high-accident intersections. Several traffic-control measures will be used.



Investigators say speed and inattentive driving were the cause in a fatal accident that occurred at the west-bound off-ramp of Kellogg and Maize.

Robbers Caught After Car Chase

On May 13, Officers Chad Clark and Husam Shourbaji were conducting follow-up in the Hilltop area looking for two suspects who were involved in several highway robberies around the city.

While on patrol, they located the suspect's vehicle in the area and began to follow it. After attempting to stop the vehicle a pursuit ensued and ended in the area of Lincoln and Woodlawn where one of the suspects jumped out and fled on foot.

Officer Clark gave chase and caught the driver near the apartments at Lincoln and Mission. Officer Shourbaji apprehended the other suspect and a handgun was located in the vehicle.

Both suspects were booked for aggravated robbery and evading and eluding police, as well as drug and weapon violations. One of the individuals had a parole warrant and the other was wanted in Clinton, Missouri in connection with a shooting.

Because of these officer's vigilance, dedication and fearlessness in the face of danger, two dangerous criminals were apprehended.

Guide for Safe Wichita

With the support of Deputy Chief Stolz and Captain Allred, the WPD Community Guide was approved and produced. Officer Gallagher worked very hard on this project collaborating with Officer Zamarano of Patrol West and supervision. 2500 copies were authorized for production and distribution throughout the East Bureau. Months of planning and research went into the guide, which was designed to enhance the perception of safety to the public and eliminate frivolous calls for police.

Prostitution Sting Produces Results

On May 10th Officer Alex Recio conducted a joint prostitution sting with the assistance of Patrol North and Patrol South which resulted in ten arrests and was aired on KSN Channel 3.

On May 24 a "john" sting took place in the area of 9th and Broadway which resulted in ten arrests ranging from urinating in public, prostitution and possession of cocaine.

Officer Notes Crime Trend & Helps Area Businesses

Officer Al Ward identified a crime trend on his beat regarding the theft of items left for donation at Goodwill Industries Incorporated, located at 3636 N. Oliver.

Officer Ward worked with Dennis Paige, the Security and Facility Manager for Goodwill, and Thomas A. Ryan, the IT Specialist, in devising a special assignment with his beat team to address the recurring thefts.

Off. Ward organized two separate special assignments. The first was on February 12th. This special assignment resulted in four cases being made with a total of nine people arrested. The second special as-

signment was conducted on March 1st and resulted in one case with one person arrested.

The latter special assignment involved a specific individual who had been videotaped on numerous occasions, wearing the same jacket, routinely taking items from in front of the Goodwill.

Det. John Martin was able to charge this individual with eleven (11) separate counts of theft for each videotape-documented theft from Goodwill.

Excellent work and dedication by Off. Ward and the rest of the Beat Team that took part in the special assignment.



Investigation Division Gets Much Needed Facelift

During the month of May 2006 the Investigations Division has seen a significant change in the working environment on the 6th floor. The two primary changes involve the installation of new carpet and the addition of modular furniture.

This idea of purchasing modular furniture for the investigations division began in 1999 when Deputy Chief Lee, then a Captain, and Captain Moore began looking for bids. In 2003 the department began to look more seriously at the project and by utilizing the City of Wichita's Capitol Improvement Program. City Council Members and the City Manager were given a tour of the floor and they agreed that something needed to be done. Most of the desks and office equipment had been donated or purchased from Boeing surplus and were built in the 1950's and 60's. New display cubicles were brought in for Detectives to try out and cast their vote on which ones they liked. The plans were finalized in earlier this year and construction began in this month.

All the Detectives pitched in and made the transition a success. They patched and painted walls, moved furniture and many other tasks necessary to complete the upgrade. Capt. Darrell Haynes is to be commended for spearheading the upgrade and for supervising each step of the installation much of which was done on weekends.

The results of this upgrade have been dramatic. The work area now appears modern, professional, and creates a business like atmosphere.

The impact is already noticeable. The noise level is much less than it was before. The work areas appear clean and orderly. Files are stored properly and the clutter is gone. The area projects a professional image to the citizens who are guests on our floor each day. "This is a terrific upgrade," said Deputy Chief Lee.

Detectives now have some degree of privacy for interviewing crime victims and witnesses. Storage is no longer a problem as each cubicle has three wall type storage compartments as well as desk storage.

Construction is expected to last until the end of June 2006 at a cost of almost \$267,000.

Last but certainly not least our thanks to Chief Williams, City Council and City Manager George Kolb for leading the charge on this remodel. Without the assistance this remodel would not have been possible.



Before and After: (left) Detectives had no storage space for case files, computer equipment and even telephones. Most storage was limited to what they could fit in their filing drawers or in plastic and cardboard boxes under their desks making it difficult to work. (above) With the new cubical style work stations the 6th Floor has a more modern and professional look. Much of the clutter is gone and there is more desk space. With the addition of these work stations comes increased privacy and storage.

Annual Law Enforcement Memorial Held

Law Enforcement Memorial Service was held on May 16 in the City Hall Council Chambers. Hundreds of local law enforcement officers and deputies arrived in uniform to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives in the line of duty.

Family members of the fallen heroes gathered privately in the fifth floor briefing room before the service for a short meeting with Chief Norman Williams and Sheriff Gary Steed.



During the service, Mayor Carlos Mayans and Sedgwick County Commission Chair Ben Sciortino read their proclamations and Chief Williams and Sheriff Steed addressed the attendees.

Mr. William McCollum performed Amazing Grace on the bagpipes and Officer Ron Hunt and Detective Wade Graver performed Taps on the trumpet.

The Memorial Services concluded with Police Chaplain Dave Henion reciting the benediction.

Reception sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #5.



Mayor Carlos Myans addresses the crowd at the 2006 Law Enforcement Memorial Service as Sedgwick County Deputy Sgt. Annette Haga and Wichita Police Officer Brent Woodard look on.

S.A.D.D. Program Draws Crowd at High School



Emergency crews extricate and place a student on a spine board during a mock accident at Southeast High School. The scenario was intended to make students aware of the consequences of drunk driving

On May 5th, officers participated in a mock DUI accident scenario at Southeast High School. The program is designed to give juniors and seniors a glimpse of what could happen if they drink and drive with the hope of preventing at least some kids from drinking and driving.

The program involved school staff, EMS, Fire, Police and Cochran Mortuary personnel. Officers did field sobriety and a simulated arrest.

Students from the drama department at Southeast were the actors in the scenario. Approximately 200 students attended the event.

